(b) Payment of wages under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) is required to be made at the rate of minimum wages fixed under Minimum Wages Act. For the years 1984-85 and 1985-86, the wage rates were reportedly Rs. 6.00 and Rs. 7.50 respectively per manday. This was raised to Rs. 10 per manday during 1986-87.

(c) Review of implementation of National Rural Employment Programme in different States and Union Territories is a regular exercise done by the Department of Rural Development in the Ministry of Agriculture from time to time

Cost of storage of wheat

55. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of storage of wheat for one year is equal to the 50 per cent of the cost of the same quantity of wheat stored in Food Corporation of India godowns;

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the present stock position in FCI godowns, i.e. one year old, two years old and three years old and their depreciated value after deducting the storage cost;

(c) whether Government have examined the question of releasing foodgrains at 50 per cent cost after one year storage to the needy consumers; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

1165 RS—6.

Advertisements on Tobacco or Alcoholic Drinks

56. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether VOICE, a consumer protection organisation had recently called upon the Doordarshan to ensure that no advertisements pertaining to tobacco or alcoholic drinks are allowed to enter Television camera frames while covering sporting events; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction to this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir. However, a news item to this effect which appeared in the Press has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise. However, as a matter of general guideline, Doordarshan staff have been instructed to avoid focussing camera on hoardings displaying alcoholic drinks etc. However, this is not always possible in telecast of international and other important events, for the reason that the hoardings are placed at vantage positions where camera has necessarily to focus to capture a particular scene of action. As per the Code for Commercial Advertisement for Doordarshan, advertisements promoting use of tobacco and alcohol are not allowed.

Employment to Rural Landless Labourers in Madhya Pradesh

57. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the districts of Madhya Pradesh had been severely affected by drought;